

REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY MEETING OF
September 5, 2007
VERBATIM TRANSCRIPT – ITEM 8

**Discussion and possible action regarding the Fremont Square Parking Validation Program,
formerly known as Neonopolis, for Wirrulla Hayward, LLC, located at 450 Fremont Street
- Ward 5 (Barlow)**

Appearance List:

OSCAR GOODMAN, Chairman

SCOTT ADAMS, Director of the Office of Business Development

JOHN CAMIE

RICKI Y. BARLOW, Member

BEVERLY K. BRIDGES, City Clerk

TOM McGOWAN, Las Vegas resident

ANTHONY HODGES

GARY REESE, Member

MICHAEL MATKINS, law firm of Allen Matkins, appeared on behalf of the owner

BILL HENRY, Senior Litigation Counsel

LOIS TARKANIAN, Member

STEVE WOLFSON, Member

32 minutes

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23 **CHAIRMAN GOODMAN**

24 Item Number 8 is discussion and possible action regarding the Fremont Square Parking
25 Validation Program, formerly known as Neonopolis, for Wirrulla Hayward, LLC, located at 450
26 Fremont Street in Ward 5. Mr. Adams.

27

28 **SCOTT ADAMS**

29 Yes, Scott Adams again. This is an item that's a continuation, actually, a number of items, as
30 we've gone along, on this project. It started really in September of '06 when we granted our first
31 validation and we've continuously extended the validation program through the last, through
32 ninety days ago. That ninety day approval is up today and up for reconsideration again before
33 you.

34 I will confess here this morning, that I just received an e-mail from Mr. Joshi indicating he
35 planned to have his attorney here between ten and one am (sic), and it was my fault for failing to
36 notify him about the 8:00 a.m. start time this morning. So, I don't know if this gentleman here is
37 representing –

38

39 **JOHN CAMIE**

40 No.

41

42 **SCOTT ADAMS**

43 – the Neonopolis project, but I know he did – plan to have his attorney here and it was failure on
44 my part to make him aware of the 8:00 a.m. start time that he's not here. They thought he would,
45 might be in at 9:30. I just shot him another email back saying I thought it would be up around
46 8:15 to 8:30. So, I live that up to you.

47

48 **CHAIRMAN GOODMAN**

49 All right. Is the expiration today on the validation (inaudible)?

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50 **SCOTT ADAMS**

51 Yeah, we – time these pretty carefully so that the – meeting that it comes before you on is –
52 pretty much the expiration of the prior validation extension. So, that I believe it does end on or
53 about today's meeting.

54

55 **CHAIRMAN GOODMAN**

56 All right. Councilman Barlow, what's your pleasure here?

57

58 **MEMBER BARLOW**

59 Mayor, excuse me, I would be interested to know what Mr. Joshi's attorney would have to say.
60 So, if in fact, we can hold it over until he arrives, being that it wasn't –

61

62 **CHAIRMAN GOODMAN**

63 I don't know. Can we do that?

64

65 **MEMBER BARLOW**

66 I'm not sure.

67

68 **CHAIRMAN GOODMAN**

69 We can? All right then –

70

71 **BEVERLY K. BRIDGES**

72 Yeah, you just have to re-open Agency at that time.

73

74 **CHAIRMAN GOODMAN**

75 Okay. Fine. If you, let's do that. Let's wait until Mr. Joshi's attorney, but we'll give you the
76 opportunity to speak rather than waiting around, unless you'd like to wait around until his
77 attorney's here.

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78 **JOHN CAMIE**

79 I would prefer to wait –

80

81 **CHAIRMAN GOODMAN**

82 Sure.

83

84 **JOHN CAMIE**

85 – so I can hear this one.

86

87 **CHAIRMAN GOODMAN**

88 Okay. Fine.

89

90 **JOHN CAMIE**

91 Thank you, Mr. Mayor.

92

93 **TOM McGOWAN**

94 How about public comment?

95

96 **CHAIRMAN GOODMAN**

97 If you want to.

98

99 **MEMBER BARLOW**

100 Mayor – I have a question.

101

102 **CHAIRMAN GOODMAN**

103 Yes.

104

105 **MEMBER BARLOW**

106 If in fact we open public comment now, would we have to reopen it again?

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107 **CHAIRMAN GOODMAN**

108 You mean, as far as this issue is concerned? I'm not gonna let people speak twice to it after the
109 attorney speaks.

110

111 **MEMBER BARLOW**

112 Okay. Great.

113

114 **TOM McGOWAN**

115 Don't have to. Tom McGowan, Las Vegas resident. It's reasonable to assume parking validation
116 program at Neonopolis, aka Fremont Square, is especially contingent upon the compelling
117 immediate and continuing reason for locals and visitors to patronize Neonopolis Fremont Square
118 (inaudible). You were previously and repeatedly advised that the subject property, ergo, also the
119 underground parking structure, can be made successful beyond previous expectations. But it
120 doesn't exist in a vacuum and it requires creative innovation by those who know how to do it;
121 first, you have to really want to do it when you're ready, you know the number to call. Approve
122 the item when the time is appropriate.

123

124 **CHAIRMAN GOODMAN**

125 All right.

126

127 **TOM McGOWAN**

128 Thank you.

129

130 **CHAIRMAN GOODMAN**

131 Thank you. We're going to have this held over until Mr. Joshi's attorney comes later on this
132 morning.

133

134 **ANTHONY HODGES**

135 Good morning.

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136 **CHAIRMAN GOODMAN**

137 Good morning. Let's put a two-minute timer on, on these, because I don't know what people are
138 talking about without hearing the attorney. Yes.

139

140 **ANTHONY HODGES**

141 My name is Anthony Hodges (inaudible) Way. When you're talking about the underground
142 parking at the theater in Neonopolis, you know, that's pretty much in front all of us (inaudible)
143 impossible to keep that parking open even to, maybe can help the rest of downtown, whenever,
144 but that parking is very critical. I know you have other entities other than the movie and – the
145 parking combined right now. But if you plan on making the City grow, whatever you do, try and
146 save the parking. That's all that I ask, please. Thank you.

147

148 **CHAIRMAN GOODMAN**

149 Okay. Okay. Thank you. All right. So, we'll – trail this to later on this morning.

150

151 **SCOTT ADAMS**

152 We, we're gonna communicate with him and try to get him here as soon as we can.

153

154 **CHAIRMAN GOODMAN**

155 Very Good.

156

157 **SCOTT ADAMS**

158 I apologize again –

159

160 **CHAIRMAN GOODMAN**

161 No problem.

162

163 **SCOTT ADAMS**

164 – for not notifying him of the earlier start time.

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165 **CHAIRMAN GOODMAN**

166 It's not the end of the world.

167

168 **END RELATED DISCUSSION – RESUMED RELATED DISCUSSION**

169

170 **CHAIRMAN GOODMAN**

171 We're going to call the item that was, I have to, at this time we're recessing the Council meeting.

172 I'm reopening the RDA meeting.

173

174 **MEMBER REESE**

175 Good job.

176

177 **CHAIRMAN GOODMAN**

178 Thank you. And I'm going to call Item Number 8 from the RDA agenda. Discussion and
179 possible action regarding the Fremont Square Parking Validation Program, formerly known as
180 Neonopolis, for Wurrulla Hayward, LLC located at 450 Fremont Street. This is in Ward 5. Mr.
181 Adams.

182

183 **SCOTT ADAMS**

184 Yes. As I mentioned this morning, this is a reconsideration of an additional extension of the
185 Parking Validation Program at Fremont Square. As I mentioned, your initial validation started in
186 (sic) September 10th of 2006. There have been continuous extensions granted by you, with your
187 most recent one approved on (sic) the Agency Board meeting on June 6th running through today,
188 September 5th. So it does expire today and the matter comes before you for consideration.

189

190 **CHAIRMAN GOODMAN**

191 All right. Thank you. Any questions of Mr. Adams? Yes, Sir.

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192 **MICHAEL MATKINS**

193 Well, the – status. Let me tell you the status of the project.

194

195 **CHAIRMAN GOODMAN**

196 You have to identify yourself for the record.

197

198 **MICHAEL MATKINS**

199 I'm sorry. Michael Matkins, with the law firm Allen Matkins. I represent the owner of the –
200 property.

201

202 **CHAIRMAN GOODMAN**

203 And that would be, what is that, Wirrulla.

204

205 **MICHAEL MATKINS**

206 Wirrulla.

207

208 **CHAIRMAN GOODMAN**

209 Hayward.

210

211 **MICHAEL MATKINS**

212 Wirrulla Hayward and –

213

214 **CHAIRMAN GOODMAN**

215 LLC.

216

217 **MICHAEL MATKINS**

218 – it's more complicated than that, but okay.

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219 **CHAIRMAN GOODMAN**

220 Really, it'd be nice to know who the owner of the property is.

221

222 **MICHAEL MATKINS**

223 Well, I'd have to look, but it's actually under a ground lease. So it's a fee with a ground, it's –

224 all income tax driven, it's, but at the end of the day, they're all affiliated.

225

226 **CHAIRMAN GOODMAN**

227 Okay, because as the Mayor and as a City Council, we're very interested in seeing something

228 happen over there and that's the reason we have to –

229

230 **MICHAEL MATKINS**

231 Well, the ownership –

232

233 **CHAIRMAN GOODMAN**

234 – keep on having you come back every 90 days and that must be a pain in the – rear.

235

236 **MICHAEL MATKINS**

237 Well, it is a pain. But the ownership, as you know, is very interested in having something

238 happen. They're also, and has been working for a long time since the prior ownership. I also

239 think you, as I think you know, that we are in the midst of negotiating a letter of intent with a

240 substantial, publicly held company to take a portion of the third floor. We believe if we can

241 consummate this, and I think we can, that that will attract a second floor tenant that we are

242 talking to, and we believe that if we can get the second floor tenant and the third floor tenant that

243 it will be rather easy to lease the first floor. But we need that anchor tenant which we've been

244 trying to get for a long, long time. We're close. The, it, the – third floor tenant, if you, if we had

245 it alone, it's – a cost to the ownership. It's – we need to subsidize that, the third floor tenant

246 alone will cost to the ownership money, but we believe that will attract the second floor tenant

247 who will attract the first floor tenants.

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248 **CHAIRMAN GOODMAN**

249 See, the reason that I like to have you come back here is we are talking to Mr. Rohit.

250

251 **MICHAEL MATKINS**

252 Yes, I know.

253

254 **CHAIRMAN GOODMAN**

255 Rohit Joshi and –

256

257 **MICHAEL MATKINS**

258 And I understand you –

259

260 **CHAIRMAN GOODMAN**

261 And the story we – had is a little different. See, the story that I understand, Mr. Adams, correct –
262 me if I'm wrong, that the tenant, is it a secret who the discussions are –

263

264 **MICHAEL MATKINS**

265 Yeah –

266

267 **CHAIRMAN GOODMAN**

268 All right.

269

270 **MICHAEL MATKINS**

271 – we are trying to keep that confidential.

272

273 **CHAIRMAN GOODMAN**

274 Okay. Fine. I was under the impression that the third floor would be used as offices for that
275 particular tenant. I thought the first floor would be used sort of as a public attraction. That's
276 what I was told.

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277 **MICHAEL MATKINS**

278 Well, I don't think that's quite, the first floor, there's gonna be some public attraction, public
279 space use by the third floor tenant, not – the whole first floor. The first floor will also, I think,
280 have restaurants and – public accommodation-type tenants. And the – third floor tenant that
281 we're talking, will have offices on the third floor and will use some of the first floor to – conduct
282 some of its business.

283

284 **CHAIRMAN GOODMAN**

285 Well, why don't I ask you this question sort of straightforwardly, when do you think you'll have
286 an answer of, up or down?

287

288 **MICHAEL MATKINS**

289 Well, we are in about in the third draft of a letter of a tenant, of intent. There's some issues that
290 we, that always happen with big tenants like this. They wanna be moved in by the end of the
291 year, so my hope is within the next thirty to forty-five, sixty days, this, the LI will not only be
292 done, but the lease will be signed so that they can move in by the end of the year. That's the –
293 goal.

294

295 **CHAIRMAN GOODMAN**

296 All right. Well, thank you for answering my question.

297

298 **MICHAEL MATKINS**

299 Yes, Sir.

300

301 **CHAIRMAN GOODMAN**

302 All right. Did you wanna be heard, Sir?

303

304 **JOHN CAMIE**

305 Yes, Sir.

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306 **CHAIRMAN GOODMAN**

307 Please. Please give us your name and address.

308

309 **JOHN CAMIE**

310 Good morning, Mr. Mayor. My name's John Camie. I was here, I think the last was about six
311 months ago concerning Mr. Joshi. A quick recap, as I may, the chronology. I was hired by a
312 former pro-ball player and two other parties that had significant judgments, including a fraud
313 judgment against Rohit Joshi. The participation that I had, and I only come if I know there's
314 something relevant to the City and or concern that the City can address.

315 Mr. Joshi's business, Joshi and Associates, is still not registered. They are a defunct former
316 California company. They have no Las Vegas business license. In fact, they have no standing in
317 Las Vegas at all. Yet, as I look at the document today, it's still a, the attachment of today's
318 Number 8, it – still referenced Joshi and Associates. Now, to Mr. Adams' credit, he did, I had a
319 nice conversation with his yesterday and he mentioned that it's more for history.

320 Without belaboring the point of Mr. Joshi and his conduct over the years, including the situations
321 that he had with other municipalities, none as large as Las Vegas, there are character issues. One
322 of our judgments is a fraud judgment. He has now put various entities in control of Neonopolis.
323 Now, I checked the business license scan because of, obviously, we're trying to find, what we
324 believe accurate is that, he does a participatory interest in Neonopolis. However, there's now a
325 Wirrulla USA who has the business license, which is even a new entity to me. And if you call
326 the number listed, it actually goes to a voice mail for Joshi and Associates. So, if I'm asking
327 anything today, and I think it's actually productive for the City, as they are your partner in this,
328 what you've called an albatross at times, is to identify who the – over one percent owners are,
329 which he was required to do. I don't know if he has in this initial nine, ninety-day extension
330 agreement.

331 And my second concern is find out who he is in relation to this development. Obviously, we
332 have specific interest. Let's see, Wirrulla Hayward, FAEC Wirrulla, we see Joshi and Associates
333 littered throughout the paper. So, I would like for the – City Council to always identify that.

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334 Lastly, the liquor license issue. What frankly, one of the – ways we felt as though we would
335 smoke him out, and again, he's a (inaudible) character. Documents, I gave you the documents,
336 misrepresented the arrangement with him. We'd smoke him out because (inaudible) would have
337 to be on that – license. He refused to submit. The City code's pretty clear on that. Mr. DiFiore
338 sat here and said that he would have to submit. He did not. This Council gave them a liquor
339 license, gave Mr. Joshi's girlfriend a liquor license, who Mr. Joshi, in an article, no more than a
340 month ago, described, in quotes, as a silent owner. I would imagine that the – intent of the liquor
341 license law is to protect these types of third parties from, you know, running these sorts of
342 operations. So, the concern, over, overwhelming, is that Mr. Joshi has a smokescreen going up
343 and that it was perpetuated by the Council with this liquor license and by accepting all of these
344 various Wurrulla entities without there being any substantiation. And I say that with a lot of
345 regard for this Council. I – saw these presentations, including Mr. Adams, you're doing great
346 things down here for development. But I do believe right is right and wrong is wrong. And as
347 long as he's enable, he'll continue to do it. Thank you.

348
349 **CHAIRMAN GOODMAN**

350 All right. Thank you very much. Mr. Henry, I think the suggestion is probably a good
351 suggestion. I know Mr. Matkins indicated that this is all being set for a land lease purpose. But I
352 think we're entitled since we are, in fact, their partner, to find out who we're doing business with.
353 And I would like to ask the City Attorney to –

354
355 **MICHAEL MATKINS**

356 Your Honor, Mayor –

357
358 **CHAIRMAN GOODMAN**

359 – get the answers to that question.

360
361 **MICHAEL MATKINS**

362 – we've done this.

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363 **CHAIRMAN GOODMAN**

364 Well –

365

366 **MICHAEL MATKINS**

367 We – went through this, we’ve sat with the –

368

369 **CHAIRMAN GOODMAN**

370 It could be, but I –

371

372 **MICHAEL MATKINS**

373 Well, we’ll do it again. We’ll just, we’ve sat with the City Attorney. We’ve given the City
374 Attorney.

375

376 **CHAIRMAN GOODMAN**

377 Okay. I – wanna do it again.

378

379 **MICHAEL MATKINS**

380 Okay, we’ll just –

381

382 **CHAIRMAN GOODMAN**

383 Because I don’t like the answers, I really don’t. I don’t like the answers.

384

385 **MICHAEL MATKINS**

386 What’s –

387

388 **CHAIRMAN GOODMAN**

389 And right now, if I had my druthers, you know, I’d – break whatever relationship we have with
390 him and try to take it over and start from scratch. I’m told by my City Attorney that we can’t do
391 that. I understand he is in default now, but it’s for a minimal amount of money, and he’ll

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392 probably pay that. If he didn't, I can promise you and him that we would be in there taking it
393 over.

394

395 **MICHAEL MATKINS**

396 Well, I – you know, as to the ownership and all of that, we have sat with the City Attorney,
397 we've given the City Attorney, I think he was satisfied. We did that, prob, I don't know, year
398 ago, six months ago.

399

400 **CHAIRMAN GOODMAN**

401 I'd like to do it again.

402

403 **MICHAEL MATKINS**

404 We'll do it again. We have no problem with that.

405

406 **CHAIRMAN GOODMAN**

407 I'd like to do it again, then, Mr. Henry, if you would, in our briefing, tell us what the story is, and
408 advise us whether or not we can terminate our relationship, if there's anyway we can legally do
409 that. Enough is enough.

410

411 **BILL HENRY**

412 Very well.

413

414 **CHAIRMAN GOODMAN**

415 Okay.

416

417 **MEMBER TARKANIAN**

418 Mr. Mayor?

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419 **CHAIRMAN GOODMAN**

420 Yes.

421

422 **MICHAEL MATKINS**

423 Nor so sure this is the signal you want to send this tenant, but it's up to you.

424

425 **CHAIRMAN GOODMAN**

426 Well, that's the signal I'm sending.

427

428 **MEMBER TARKANIAN**

429 Mr. Mayor, you're saying, are you requesting that we will be told who all the owners are?

430

431 **CHAIRMAN GOODMAN**

432 I'd like to know who the City's partner is.

433

434 **MEMBER TARKANIAN**

435 Who's the City's partner is, the basic partners we started with, as well as any new ones coming
436 on?

437

438 **CHAIRMAN GOODMAN**

439 Right.

440

441 **MEMBER TARKANIAN**

442 Okay. And if we are given that information and anything is found not to be legitimate, then
443 that's fraud, right?

444

445 **CHAIRMAN GOODMAN**

446 I would think so.

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447 **MEMBER TARKANIAN**

448 Okay. And that's –

449

450 **MICHAEL MATKINS**

451 Probably not, but it's okay; we'll give the information.

452

453 **MEMBER TARKANIAN**

454 But we don't wanna have any hidden owners. You gotta know, even if it's a one percent
455 ownership or a half percent ownership or some LLC, way far away ownership, we wanna know
456 every single ownership.

457

458 **MICHAEL MATKINS**

459 We've disclosed it before, we'll disclose it again.

460

461 **MEMBER TARKANIAN**

462 Right. And that's what you request.

463

464 **CHAIRMAN GOODMAN**

465 That's what I'd like. (Inaudible). Apparently not. Okay. Councilman Barlow.

466

467 **MEMBER BARLOW**

468 Yes, Mayor. Thank you. I have met with the publicly traded company in which you spoke of,
469 Mr. Matkins, and it is my hope that a lease will be able to be signed, at least, by the, fairly soon,
470 and they will be able to come in to this location by the end of the year, as you stated. I have a lot
471 of reservation in regards to this development because of its long standing and long colorful
472 history.

473 I – believe that the City is doing all that it can do in order to really help this Neonopolis project.
474 And we want nothing more but success to come out of this development. So, if in fact, we have
475 to go back, as the Mayor stated, and – revisit some things that we've visited in the past, I support

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476 that and I hope that you can respect that; at the same time and provide us with that additional
477 information that we're seeking, in order for us to be comfortable, in order for us to remain on the
478 same page, in order for us to assist this development in a way that it really needs the assistance.
479 So, for that, I am in support of the ninety-day extension so that we may provide the company that
480 you're looking to bring into the third floor and do business also on the first floor, an opportunity
481 to come in and be the benchmark or the pacesetter to really launch Neonopolis in the direction it
482 needs to go. So, it is my hope that you'll able to accomplish that goal.

483
484 **MICHAEL MATKINS**

485 Coun, Councilman, I think the City's been very supportive of – as I have stated, of helping us get
486 this tenant in, and certainly, we want the tenant. You know, everyday, we don't have tenants it
487 costs us lots of money. Certainly, a way to help get that tenant isn't to try to defame or tear down
488 the ownership, because, you know, that – will not help give this tenant confidence. And we need
489 to give this tenant confidence, that not only can we get the tenant in there, but that we can create
490 synergism at the – whole property so that other tenants will come.

491 And I think, you know, I – think the ownership's been working very hard at that, but, just driven
492 by trying to make some money, not – anything else. And it's been a tough road. It will continue
493 to be tough. We are hopeful that this is the break we've been trying, the ownership's been trying
494 to create for a couple of years now.

495 But as to, certainly as to disclosures and things regarding the ownership, we've done it. We'll do
496 it again. We'll do it as many times as you want. We have nothing to hide. We're just trying to
497 get tenants.

498
499 **MEMBER BARLOW**

500 Okay. And I can appreciate that. And the owners, themselves, have shared with me, in my
501 office, that they are committed. And it is my hope, once again, that they are committed and that
502 they do what they're looking for to do because it's gonna be a win-win for the entire community.
503 Once they do sign a lease and once they do come in and become the anchor tenant that we're
504 looking for, I believe that the entire community will be able to celebrate its grand opening.

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505 **MICHAEL MATKINS**

506 We hope so too.

507

508 **MEMBER BARLOW**

509 Thank you.

510

511 **MEMBER WOLFSON**

512 Mayor Goodman?

513

514 **CHAIRMAN GOODMAN**

515 Yes, Councilman Wolfson.

516

517 **MEMBER WOLFSON**

518 Not to beat a dead horse too much, but just as a – natural tangent, if you will, extension, Sir, I
519 don't remember your name. What's your last name?

520

521 **JOHN CAMIE**

522 Camie, Mr. Camie.

523

524 **MEMBER WOLFSON**

525 You're a lawyer, aren't you?

526

527 **JOHN CAMIE**

528 I'm actually a criminologist.

529

530 **MEMBER WOLFSON**

531 A criminologist. Well, that means you have a degree in criminology?

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532 **JOHN CAMIE**

533 That's right.

534

535 **MEMBER WOLFSON**

536 Okay. But you're talking about somebody having judgments against, perhaps, one of the
537 principals that we're talking about. What is your interest in relation to these judgments against
538 Mr. Joshi?

539

540 **JOHN CAMIE**

541 Sure. My interest is that I'm attempting to locate his assets and his affiliation with this property,
542 as well as any of his – other developments.

543

544 **MEMBER WOLFSON**

545 Do you represent anybody?

546

547 **JOHN CAMIE**

548 I do. I do. I represent three different parties and, yeah, three different parties, at this point.

549

550 **MEMBER WOLFSON**

551 Okay. I guess, my only comment would be, I think that when we move in this forward direction
552 to, hopefully, come to a position where we have tenants and we have viable businesses that come
553 to this property and – it's good for everybody, that I think that as part of this formula, our City
554 Attorney should check out, if they haven't already, and provide us with information to confirm or
555 not confirm the information that this gentleman is giving us. I mean, would it have an affect on
556 our judgment if you come before us in sixty and ninety days and talk about, okay, we've got a
557 great tenant and my principal is Mr. Joshi, but Mr. Joshi has these judgments against him. I think
558 it's just all part of the evaluation that we need to go through. So, if it hasn't been done yet, I'm
559 going to ask for the City Attorney to follow up on these things and in future briefings advise us
560 of such.

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561 **BILL HENRY**

562 Councilman Wolfson, we were directed to do this six, eight months ago –

563

564 **MEMBER WOLFSON**

565 Is that so?

566

567 **BILL HENRY**

568 – and we conducted a serious inquiry. We asked for original documents to be produced and we
569 were satisfied and that Mr. Joshi had no ownership in what was then known as Neonopolis. And
570 I know or I believe, from talking to the City Attorney, that at least the Office of the Mayor was
571 briefed as to those findings. Now, I understand we've been directed to conduct the same
572 investigation again, and we would be glad to do that.

573

574 **CHAIRMAN GOODMAN**

575 Well, I'd like to know this Mr. Matkins, if you can tell me.

576

577 **MICHAEL MATKINS**

578 I can tell you.

579

580 **CHAIRMAN GOODMAN**

581 Or whether you will tell me.

582

583 **MICHAEL MATKINS**

584 I will tell you.

585

586 **CHAIRMAN GOODMAN**

587 I've been told that whoever purchased the interest from Prudential paid twenty-five million
588 dollars for it. And I've been told that –

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589 **MICHAEL MATKINS**

590 I think that's a matter of public record.

591

592 **CHAIRMAN GOODMAN**

593 I believe it is. And then I've been further told that with the loss of income and the expenditures
594 for the upkeep, that they probably have about thirty million into it. I was then told that there was
595 an asking price of sixty million, and if it were to be sold. And now I've been told is an asking
596 price of ninety million, and the person who appears to be setting these asking prices, is not your
597 client, but Mr. Joshi. I'd really like to find out who's setting the asking prices because we're not
598 gonna be able to, have that sold for ninety million dollars tomorrow, that's for sure.

599

600 **MICHAEL MATKINS**

601 I – don't think the property's on the market. I don't think there is an asking price.

602

603 **MEMBER WOLFSON**

604 Joshi, excuse me, Mayor, but Mr. Joshi was coming before us for two years about this property,
605 about this extension. And now I'm hearing he's not in the picture and Mr. Matkins represents
606 other people. I mean, I'm a decently smart guy. I'm not a real smart guy, but I'm pretty confused
607 at this point.

608

609 **MICHAEL MATKINS**

610 Councilman, I don't think we've ever, Mr. Joshi, who – has some relationship with the
611 ownership, we have never come in here and said that Mr. Joshi has any ownership interest, he
612 doesn't. And he has never made any representations on behalf of the ownership, to my
613 knowledge.

614 Well, let me tell you what I, what's going on here, and excuse me, we've got a bill collector.
615 That's what he is. This is what this guy is; a bill collector. He's got a beef with Joshi, so he's
616 scrolling on the wall everywhere he can. That's not good for the project. That's not good for the

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617 ownership. It's not good for the City. It's not, in my view, this Council shouldn't even, this –
618 matter doesn't belong here in this forum. This belongs somewhere else.

619

620 **MEMBER WOLFSON**

621 Your Honor?

622

623 **MICHAEL MATKINS**

624 And you've dignified it and just doesn't, it's not good.

625

626 **MEMBER WOLFSON**

627 Mayor Goodman, with your permission. I respect what you just said and I think you're probably
628 right, but this is America, so we invite people to come in and, and I – put his role, if you will, on
629 the proper shelf, but I wanna go back to the core here and who we're dealing with? Who are you
630 speaking for? Because it just came, it seems to just keep changing and evolving over time.

631

632 **MICHAEL MATKINS**

633 Oh, I don't think it's changed at all, you know. Mr. Barnaby, who's – not, is a – not a resident of
634 the United States, directly or indirectly owns this property. When I say nobody else, I think his
635 son has an interest in it. I – don't remember. But it's all Barnaby, Mr. Barnaby controlled. And
636 Mr. Barnaby, a friend of Mr. Barnaby is – Rohit Joshi. Mr. Joshi has no economic interest in this
637 property.

638

639 **MEMBER WOLFSON**

640 I guess what's confusing is, and then I'll shut up, is that Mr. Joshi was the face man who was
641 coming before us time and time again and then we haven't seen him for a while. We've been
642 seeing you. So, it's just confusing.

643

644 **CHAIRMAN GOODMAN**

645 All right.

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646 **JOHN CAMIE**

647 Councilman.

648

649 **CHAIRMAN GOODMAN**

650 No, no. We'll call for the question. Councilman, do you have a motion?

651

652 **MEMBER BARLOW**

653 Yes. I've made a motion, Mayor. I'm – slightly confused now myself with the newest –
654 information, not necessarily trying to chime in on what the gentleman has brought to us, but the
655 representation that you mentioned, as far as Mr. Joshi not having or – being the right or the
656 wrong person to represent before this Council.

657

658 **MICHAEL MATKINS**

659 He's a representative of the owner. He is not the owner.

660

661 **MEMBER BARLOW**

662 Okay.

663

664 **MICHAEL MATKINS**

665 I –

666

667 **MEMBER BARLOW**

668 Well, at this – point, while the attorneys assist us in – working through this maze, I would move
669 to allow the extension to take place. And that will be my motion at this time.

670

671 **CHAIRMAN GOODMAN**

672 What – was the motion, again, please?

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673 **MEMBER BARLOW**

674 I – move approval of this item, Mayor.

675

676 **CHAIRMAN GOODMAN**

677 For how long?

678

679 **MEMBER BARLOW**

680 The –

681

682 **CHAIRMAN GOODMAN**

683 What – was staff's recommendation? Ninety days?

684

685 **SCOTT ADAMS**

686 Well –

687

688 **MEMBER BARLOW**

689 What was that, ninety days?

690

691 **SCOTT ADAMS**

692 I, there is, you know, we, you have traditionally given ninety-day extensions. I think what I'm
693 hearing Mr. Matkins say is that they should have a lease wrapped up, maybe within forty-five,
694 give him sixty days. So, I would say an extension somewhere in the vicinity of sixty to ninety
695 days oughta get you through a point where, hopefully, they can come forward and make us aware
696 of the, how definite those negotiations have reached and whether they have a lease or not with
697 this – high level tenant that we would really make a big change in the positive future of this
698 project.

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699 **MEMBER BARLOW**

700 Then my – recommendation would be subject to Council’s background information, as far as
701 time that you all would need in order to give us that additional information as well.

702

703 **CHAIRMAN GOODMAN**

704 So, you figure about sixty days?

705

706 **MEMBER BARLOW**

707 Six –

708

709 **CHAIRMAN GOODMAN**

710 – extend the validation for sixty days?

711

712 **MEMBER BARLOW**

713 – sixty days –

714

715 **CHAIRMAN GOODMAN**

716 – we should have the answers to all of our –

717

718 **MEMBER BARLOW**

719 – sixty days would be fine.

720

721 **CHAIRMAN GOODMAN**

722 All right, let’s vote.

723

724 **MEMBER BARLOW**

725 That’s my recommendation.

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726 **MEMBER WOLFSON**

727 I'm sorry Mayor Goodman, before we go to vote –

728

729 **CHAIRMAN GOODMAN**

730 Yes, Councilman.

731

732 **MEMBER WOLFSON**

733 Excuse Councilman Barlow, may I just ask with your permission? Mr. Henry just told me
734 something that gave a little bit more insight, and I'd invite him to – advice the Council on what
735 he just advised me.

736

737 **BILL HENRY**

738 As I said, we conducted an investigation at the direction of the Mayor as to the ownership of
739 Neonopolis. We had Mr. Joshi and I spoke with him. We had Mr. Barnaby Junior in; I spoke
740 with him. I spoke with counsel, who's appearing before you, several times, over the telephone.
741 Mr. Barnaby Junior, at my request, immediately brought me original source documents as to
742 management, pardon me, as to ownership, and counsel provided me with other things. We also
743 conducted an investigation of various legal data, databases from California to try to get to the
744 bottom of who Mr. Joshi was. And our conclusion was this, although there are a number of
745 LLCs and a lease in transfer of this property over a short period of time that they exist and the
746 transfers were done for tax purposes. That, in essence, the owner of this property is a gentleman
747 who, I'll refer to as Mr. Barnaby Senior, a very wealthy man who lives in India. His son, Mr.
748 Barnaby Junior, resides here in the United States, and when last I knew, here in Las Vegas.
749 Mr. Joshi is a person who I would describe as the family retainer, perhaps here in the United
750 States, as much as anything, to look out to report to Mr. Barnaby Senior, as to his business
751 interest. I found nothing to suggest that Mr. Joshi would, ever had an ownership interest in this
752 property. And I directly asked Mr. Barnaby Junior about how Mr. Joshi would be compensated
753 for all of his work, whatever the quality of it might have been. And I was told that he has
754 confidence that Mr. Barnaby Senior will take care of him, at, when the property sells, if it sells or

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755 at the end of this project, as he always has before. So, I inquired directly as to why Mr. Joshi has
756 represented himself as the owner of this property before the Council for a period of almost two
757 years. And, although I didn't get a direct answer, I came to be of the personal opinion that to the
758 extent that he ever told the Council that he had an ownership stake in this property, that that was
759 not an accurate representation. I would be glad to investigate this matter again, as I did before,
760 but I don't have a reason to believe that I would reach a different conclusion.

761
762 **CHAIRMAN GOODMAN**

763 All right. Well –

764
765 **MICHAEL MATKINS**

766 And – he – described it accurately.

767
768 **CHAIRMAN GOODMAN**

769 Fine. I – want it investigated again –

770
771 **BILL HENRY**

772 All right.

773
774 **CHAIRMAN GOODMAN**

775 – because I think we're being played for a fool here. All right, Councilman, sixty-day –

776
777 **MEMBER BARLOW**

778 Yes, Mayor, I would like to move for a sixty-day extension.

779
780 **CHAIRMAN GOODMAN**

781 Okay. That's fine. I'm just saying that we – can't put up with this nonsense anymore. All right,
782 let's vote.

783 MEMBER BARLOW

784 Thank you, Mayor.

785

786 CHAIRMAN GOODMAN

787 Post. Motion carries. **(Motion carried unanimously)** One thing we can do, we can bring the
788 owner, if it is this gentleman, the Senior, what's his name?

789

790 **BILL HENRY**

791 Barnaby.

792

793 CHAIRMAN GOODMAN

794 Barnaby? We can bring him forward during the liquor license and if he doesn't wanna come, like
795 he didn't want to come before, we can do what we have to do there too. That's where I am. I'm
796 trying to save fifty people jobs over there, and we're being played for the fool. Okay.

797

798 MICHAEL MATKINS

799 Thank you.

800

801 CHAIRMAN GOODMAN

802 You're welcome.

803

804 (END OF DISCUSSION)

805 /cv/ac